



Collection Policy

Our library collection policy establishes the practical guidelines to serve the student, faculty, and stakeholder communities of Eastern University with academic and research resources and to aid the Library in determining the acquisition and retention of materials. Special emphasis is made on the integration of Christian faith and learning. Areas of the collection are also developed which require professional accreditation: Palmer Theological Seminary, Education, Social Work, Nursing, and Business.

Books and Services: Warner Memorial Library services are driven by our curriculum, academic user demand, and the accessibility methods. We are primarily a teaching university; not a research institution building definitive collections. We increasingly rely on ebooks and Interlibrary Loan for research materials. Our collection attempts to integrate faith, reason, and justice issues. Areas of development are weighted toward circulation and use: Psychology (BF); Religion and Bible (BL-BX); History/Political Science (C,D,E,F); Social Sciences and Business (H); Literature (P); Health/Nursing/Counseling (R). Other areas grow as needed.

Periodicals: Warner Memorial Library intentionally limits its print collection, while building a significant online collection, and providing various Interlibrary accessibility methods. Specifically: 1) We display a select readers' browsing journal collection of popular, opinion, and limited academic titles. 2) We develop a significant online research collection of journals in all subject areas. 3) Articles unavailable in our journal databases are first sought through the RapidILL article interlibrary loan service. 4) For those articles not available in RapidILL, we use a document delivery company. 5) The TCLC and SEPTLA library cooperatives provide additional access possibilities. 6) Articles not available through any of these avenues are searched through the OCLC bibliographic network.

Databases: Our databases support all areas of the curriculum. We seek to minimize the overlap of periodical coverage in journal databases and maximize the number of online ebooks. We add open access materials to our web resources that are consonant with our academic goals.

Media: The Library acquires media which support the curriculum. We add popular media appropriate to the institutional culture. We preserve institutional media materials digitally or with appropriate technology.

Gift Collections to Libraries: The Library accepts gift collections of books and media, not journals. We provide a letter of receipt, not appraisal, when requested. We reserve the right to add gift collections to our collection, to sell, or give collections to other appropriate organizations.